

September 15, 2017

Sean Sheldrake  
Project Coordinator  
U.S. EPA, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-111  
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: August 2017 Monthly Progress Report  
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action  
U.S. EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255  
Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Sheldrake,

This monthly progress report provides information required by Section VIII, Paragraph 26, of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) for actions taken in August 2017 at the Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

## 1. Actions Taken in This Month and Problems Encountered

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this month:

- August 7 – Anchor QEA submitted a memorandum entitled *NW Natural Proposed Summer 2017 Initial Pre-Remedial Design Data Gaps Field Sampling – Gasco Sediments Site* detailing proposed interim sampling during summer low river surface water elevations.
- August 10, 14, and 15 – Anchor QEA submitted dive operations plans and associated medical forms for Coastal Monitoring Associates.
- August 15 – Anchor QEA submitted the Gasco Sediments Site monthly progress report to EPA.
- August 16 – NW Natural received EPA comments on the Coastal Monitoring Associates dive operations plan, and Anchor QEA submitted the health and safety plan for non-diver activities.
- August 21 – Anchor QEA submitted a dive safety and work plan for Research Support Services. NW Natural received EPA's comments on the *NW Natural Proposed Summer 2017 Initial Pre-Remedial Design Data Gaps Field Sampling – Gasco Sediments Site* and the health and safety plan for non-diver activities.
- August 23 – Anchor QEA performed the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap, which included visual observations for the presence of gas bubble generation in surface water and sheen. Anchor QEA submitted a revised *NW Natural Proposed Summer 2017 Initial Pre-Remedial Design Data Gaps Field Sampling – Gasco Sediments Site* and associated response to EPA comments.

- August 25 – Anchor QEA submitted the names and qualifications of the proposed subcontractors for the proposed interim sampling.
- August 28 – NW Natural received EPA's conditional approval of the proposed interim sampling.
- August 30 – Anchor QEA submitted a revised dive safety and work plan for Research Support Services.
- August 31 – NW Natural received EPA final approval to perform the proposed interim sampling.

## **2. Results of Sampling, Tests, and Other Data Received**

The results of the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap are provided as Attachment A.

## **3. Schedule of Activities for the Next Month**

Anchor QEA anticipates the following activities to occur in the next month:

- Submit the September monthly progress report.
- Complete monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap area.
- Receive EPA comments on the *Pre-Remedial Basis of Design Technical Evaluations Work Plan* and development of any associated necessary responses to comments and work plan revisions.
- Complete the interim sampling during summer low river surface water elevations.

## **4. Anticipated Problems and Proposed Resolutions**

No problems or unforeseen conditions were encountered.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barth, P.E.  
Project Manager

cc:

Bob Wyatt, NW Natural  
Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC

Myron Burr, Siltronic Corporation  
Ilene Munk, Foley & Mansfield, PLLP  
James Peale, Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.  
Mike Murray, Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.  
Lance Peterson, CDM Smith  
Matt McClincy, DEQ  
Dana Bayuk, DEQ  
Dan Hafley, DEQ

## **Attachments**

Attachment A Monthly Visual Monitoring Report for Pilot Cap Vicinity

# Visual Observations Log Form

August 24, 2017

**Project:** NW Natural – Gasco

**Project Number:** 000029-02.50, Task 4

**Location:** NW Natural "Gasco" Site

**Monitoring Period:** Monthly (Year 11) —August 2017

**Observations Started:** August 23, 2017 @ 14:00

**Observations Concluded:** August 23, 2017 @ 15:00

**Photographs Taken:** Yes: ☒ No: ☐

**Recorded by:** Douglas Laffoon

## Weather Conditions

Mostly sunny, humid, 80° Fahrenheit, light winds from the northeast.

## Wave Action Observations

Light wave action (0.2 – 0.4 feet in height)

## Tidal Conditions

Willamette River level on 8/23/2017 ranged in elevation from 2.15 to 6.06 feet. The Willamette River level during the photos in this report was approximately 2.80 feet measured at 14:00 (River Level Elevation Datum: Morrison Gage Height).

## Observations of Erosion/Deposition

No erosion is evident along the shoreline.

## Observations of Long-term Controls (i.e., oil booms, organo-clay mat, etc.)

During the observation, the FMM containment boom was placed across the cap area from the ship dock to the upriver dolphin. Two buoys that identify the cap area to mariners are in place as installed, but the buoys are not in an upright position due to extremely low water levels. The positions of the FMM oil boom and warning buoys are shown in Photo 2.

Exposed organo-clay mat material segments were observed at the current river levels. A segment 5 feet in length is exposed approximately 10 feet landward of the water's edge, near the lateral mid-point of the cap area. A 12-foot section is exposed shoreward of the water's edge, perpendicular to the shoreline at the upriver boundary of the cap area (Photo 1). A section of organo-clay mat material measuring 40 feet in length is exposed near the downriver extent of the cap at the water's edge.

## Other Comments

No sheen is evident in or around the cap area. Photo 3 shows the water surface and shoreline immediately downriver of the sediment cap.

## Photos

**Photo 1**

**Mat material visible at the upriver extent of the cap area (8/23/2017)**



**Photo 2**

**FAMM Oil Boom Placement and Mariner Warning Buoys at Pilot Cap Area (8/23/2017)**





**Photo 3**  
**Conditions Immediately Downriver of Cap Area (8/23/17)**

